



# **Discovery Preproposal Conference**

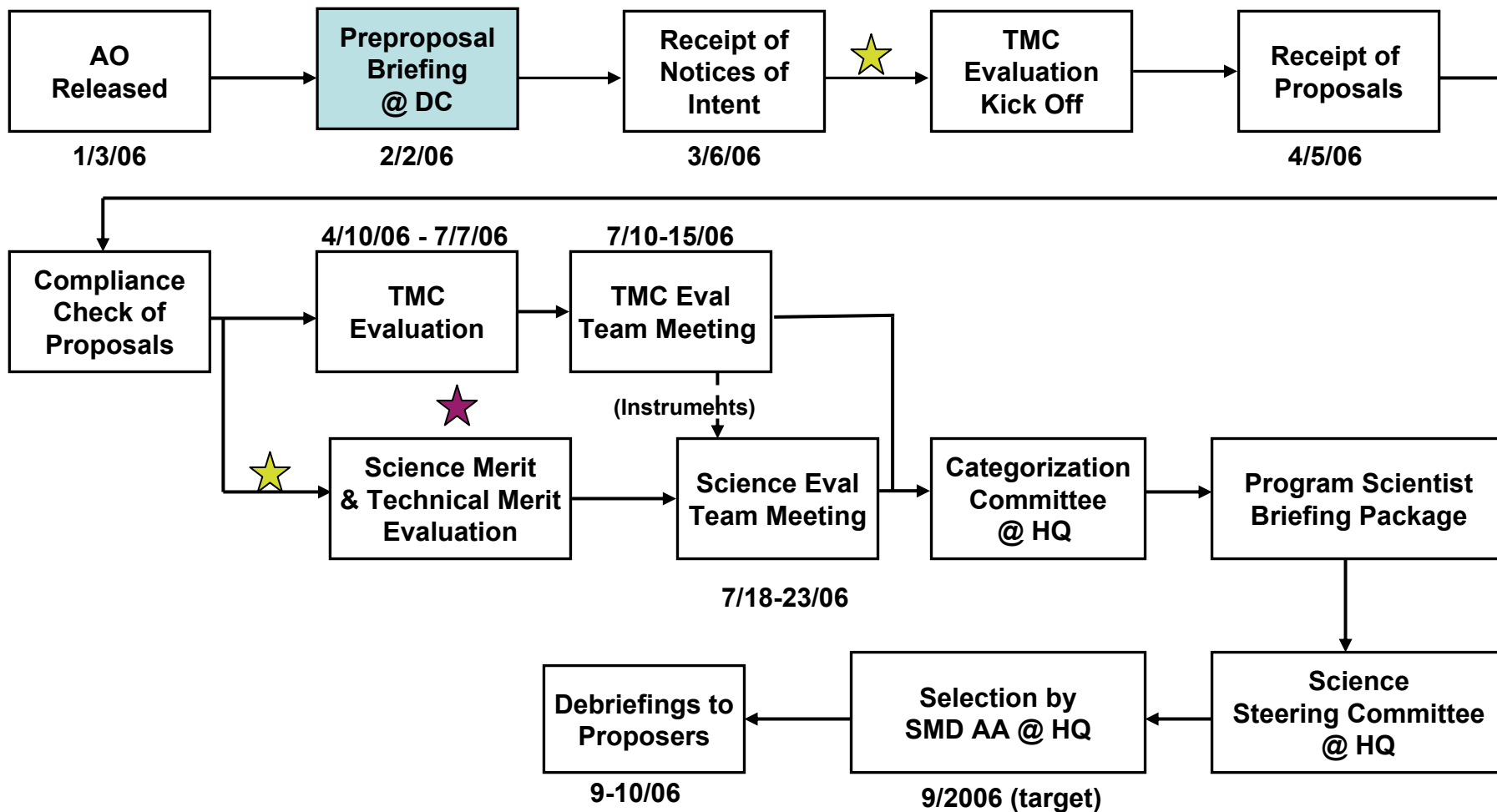
## **AO Evaluation & Selection Science Evaluation**

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# AO Evaluation Process

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# *Evaluation Criteria*

- Scientific Merit (40%)
- Scientific Implementation Merit & Feasibility (30%)
  - Both are rated as E, VG, G, F, P
- Technical, Management, & Cost Feasibility including Cost Risk & Planetary Protection (30%)
  - Rated as low, medium, or high risk



# *Evaluation Criteria (cont'd)*

- For Missions of Opportunity that don't involve the provision of hardware, weighting is:
  - Scientific Merit (50%)
  - Scientific Implementation Merit & Feasibility (30%)
  - Feasibility of Approach (20%)
- *See Section 7.2 of AO*



# SEOs, TDOs, SCs

- SEOs & TDOs with TRL<6 won't penalize proposal *if clearly separable from main objectives.*
- SEOs & TDOs will be evaluated for merit, cost risk & schedule risk.
- SCs will be evaluated for overall merit only *if clearly separable from main objectives.*
- The inclusion of SEOs, TDOs, & SCs are encouraged and will be considered a strength.



# Selection and Notification

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- The Selecting Official bases selection on the combined reviews, the categorization, and *other issues such as programmatic needs or budgetary considerations*
- Selected PIs will be notified by phone and then by letter.
- All teams are entitled to a debriefing, either in person or by telephone.



# *Anticipated Selections*

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- Approximately 3 missions will be selected for Concept Studies.
  - No more than 7 months long.
  - No more than \$1.2M (RY)
- One or more MoOs may be selected for either Concept Study or direct implementation.
  - Concept studies are no more than 7 months long.
  - No more than \$250K (RY)



# *Science Evaluation*





# Science Merit Evaluation

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- Description of “Baseline Investigation” in proposal will be used to evaluate scientific merit.
  - Scientific value of “Performance Floor” also evaluated.
- Goals and objectives of proposed investigation compared to strategic goals of SMD Solar System Division & ESP goals of Universe Division.



# *Science Implementation Evaluation*

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- Each investigation will be evaluated for its scientific implementation merit, feasibility, resiliency, and the probability of success.
- Includes data analysis and archiving plans.
- Role of each co-I will also be evaluated.
  - Inclusion of co-Is who are without well-defined roles & responsibilities will be considered a weakness.



# Science Evaluation Process

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- Reviewer Selection
  - Non-conflicted reviewers: no institutional ties, no Co-Is, no collaborators
  - Highly qualified in their area of expertise
  - Able to consider well-written proposals slightly outside their expertise
- Proposal Reviews
  - All reviewers receive paper and CD copies to review
  - Each reviewer evaluates each proposal individually; submit via web
  - In-person review with plenary meetings
- Confidentiality taken very seriously

**Result: Consensus Evaluations, used in Categorization**



# At the Science Panel Meeting

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Individual  
reviews



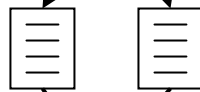
Panels  
discuss  
proposals



TMC Rep only  
Answers technical  
questions



Consensus  
Reviews



Plenary sessions level scores  
& review the reviews





*Any (more) questions?*